

# Kat's Great Adventures

**Uruguay - Best of Uruguay Cultural Tour 2022**  
**Guided Tour**  
**11 Days / 10 Nights**



Discover the most exquisite highlights and exclusive experiences of Uruguay in this ten night itinerary that will take you from the romantic UNESCO city of Colonia del Sacramento to the boho chic beaches of Jose Ignacio.

## Itinerary Day to Day

### **Day 1: Reception and Transfer from Colonia Port to Hotel Historic Quarter with Guide**

Take a private transfer from the airport to your hotel in the city centre with a guide. Half day walking tour with museums and mate tasting (private service). Explore the city of Colonia del Sacramento declared World Heritage by the UNESCO. Founded by the Portuguese and disputed for years by the crowns of both Spain and Portugal, Colonia's magical history remains intact. Walk along the charming cobbled streets guided by your local guide and discover the different sites such as the old city gate (Portón de Campo), the historical street Calle de los Suspiros (Street of Sighs), the lovely squares and the local church Iglesia Matriz. Mate tasting and entrance tickets to local museums are included.



### **Day 2: Transfer from Finca Narbona with Guide. On the way visit to Calera de las Huérfanas**

"La Calera de las Huérfanas" National Monument (estimated distance: 70 km/ - 55' on route). The history of this place says that, during the XVIII century the Jesuits established in the north of the Province of Colonia in Uruguay, where they continued their mission and built the first buildings in 1741. This is where Indians, slaves, and priests would gather. After the Jesuits were expelled by the Spanish crown, Don Juan de San Martín took the administration of the estancia and found 1500 stocks of grapevine; this is how the production was born in Uruguay. In the afternoon, transfer to Puerto Camacho where we will enjoy an unforgettable activity: Rio de la Plata Sunset Cruise (1.5 hours service

approximately). Enjoy a relaxing tour through the islands of the Delta, where the waters of Río de la Plata and Rio Uruguay meet; this spot is considered to be "kilometer 0" of both rivers. The experience begins just before sunset at the secluded marina of Club del Faro where we will board a classic boat guided by our captain. Discover the legends of the Uruguayan coasts and its shipwrecks and toast to an amazing sunset! Departure Time: Winter: 4:00 pm / Summer: 7:00 pm.

### **Day 3: Tour Jesuit Ruins & Carmelo's Wineries, with tasting & lunch**

You will visit two wineries of the Carmelo's region: Bodega Cordano is a small family run winery which is led by Ana Paula Cordano and her family in the 5th generation. Discover a unique place in our lands: "Almacén de la Capilla", a vintage grocery shop founded in 1855 by Antonio Cordano, and still looking like these old days. After a warm reception there, you will learn the production areas and you will enjoy a beautiful walk through the vineyards, hearing the sweet sing of the birds. Winery visit includes the guided tour through the vineyards and production area, led by the winery owners themselves. Afterwards, you will enjoy a wine tasting. Bodega El Legado is a boutique family owned winery located in the Carmelo area. The winery's name, which means "Legacy" was chosen in honor of Luis Mazurca, who bought the land and planted the first grapevines, in the desire to make wine. Bernardo, his son, decided to continue the project and produce wines "not because of a family tradition in winemaking but fueled by a true passion in what we do". Bodega El Legado not only refers to the material legacy but to the legacy of passing onward to the new generations the passion of the work and the love for the land. Winery visit includes the guided tour through the vineyards, wine cellar, and production area, led by the winery owners themselves. Afterwards, you will enjoy a taste of three different wines, accompanied by cheeses plate and olives. For lunch: a typical "asado" (the traditional Uruguayan barbecue). The lunch also includes dessert, soft drinks or water.

## **Day 4: Transfer from Carmelo to Montevideo; Montevideo Walking Tour of the Old City**

Discover the historic city center of Montevideo in depth. You will be taken from your hotel to the starting point of the tour: the former town gate located at the Independence Square. Get to know the history of the adjacent buildings, including the historic Palacio Salvo, the President's office and the mausoleum of national hero José Artigas. Afterwards, dive into the historic city center, where you will stroll along Sarandi pedestrian area, and quickly arrive to the Matriz Square, where the Cathedral of Montevideo and the town's Cabildo are located. Continue through the streets of the historic city center, until arriving at the Port Market, which is nowadays a vibrant market hall, with a huge variety of restaurants and typical Asado grills. It is a perfect spot to enjoy lunch. On your way you will visit as well two museums which we will choose accordingly to your preferences



(please communicate them in advance) and opening hours: the MAPI – Museum of Pre-Columbian and Indigenous Art, the Torres Garcia Museum and the Gurruchaga Museum, mainly dedicated to their eponymous artists. (Gurruchaga Museum is closed on Sunday). Please note the tour may also take place starting at the Port Market and the visits to museums and theatres are subject to their opening/closing time. After finishing your tour, you will be taken back to your hotel.

## **Day 5: Tour Modern Montevideo with visit to Lobo Nuñez**

Enjoy a tour of the different neighborhoods of Montevideo which started developing after the demolition of the Old City Walls which took place on September 1829. Unlike the Old City, La Ciudad Nueva (the new city), was planned with wide and tree lined streets, with magnificent stores and residences. From the Plaza Independencia we can admire the surrounding buildings of different heights and styles, which clearly define it as a city facing the future. The main avenue 18 de Julio, starts here. A few blocks away, we will visit the Plaza Fabini or "Plaza del Entrevero", with a magnificent sculpture of a horse battle between the first Spanish settlers and the native inhabitants, masterpiece of the Uruguayan artist José Belloni. From this spot we have a clear view of the Palacio Legislativo (Congress) a multi-coloured marble building, one of the most sumptuous of Latin America. We will then continue onto the "Ciudad Abierta" (the open city), the area of Montevideo which gradually grew into an open city of green parks, famous monuments and residential areas. We will see the famous "Estadio Centenario" (Sports centre - entrance not included), Monumento a la Carreta and the residential area of Carrasco and Punta Gorda. You will also visit the studio of Lobo Nuñez, an Afro-Uruguayan drums luthier and percussionist considered a "legend" within the Uruguayan Candombe music genre. You will learn about the first signs of Carnival in Uruguay traced back to 1760, when slaves were only allowed to celebrate in certain special dates. This is a memorable cultural encounter that will give you insider access to the secret world of the Uruguayan drums!

## **Day 6: Transfer from Montevideo to Sacromonte, near to Pueblo Edén**

Enjoy a welcome wine tasting on top of the hill, overlooking the hills of the "Sierras de Caracoles". Includes tasting of three wines, champagne and lunch or dinner.



## **Day 7: Pick up at Sacromonte, for an Experience Day Tour Pueblo Eden, Wines & Olives**

The experience begins at Lote 8 Olive oil plantations where we will learn about the olive oil production in Uruguay and enjoy an olive oil tasting. We will then continue onto Viña Eden located on the rocky outcrops of Pueblo Eden and the panoramic Route 12, an exceptional place where wines combine the climate of the hills and freshness of the Atlantic ocean. Enjoy a tasting of the Eden Wines including a Chardonnay, a typical Tannat Reserva and the Cerro Negro wine. Hectares of olive trees and vineyards surround the village, making this region known as the "Uruguayan Tuscany". This tour can also be organized as a bike ride with no extra cost.

## **Day 8: Transfer from Sacromonte to Punta Del Este; Punta del Este City Tour (Half Day)**

Punta Del Este is definitely one of South America's most glamorous resorts. You will be able to see many beaches, elegant seaside homes, high-rise apartment buildings, luxury hotels and glitzy restaurants. This tour will take you through Punta Del Este's attractions: the Main Avenue, Juan Gorlero, the artisans market, the yacht's port, the church Nuestra Señora de la Candelaria, the lighthouse, the beaches and the residential neighborhoods of Golf, San Rafael, Beverly Hills, Rincón Del Indio and Cantegril. We will drive over the undulated bridge to La Barra with its beaches chosen by surfers, colorful houses, many restaurants and a more relaxed atmosphere. We will make a stop in Punta Ballena where you will see Casapueblo, a unique and quirky building constructed by the famous Uruguayan artist Carlos Páez Vilaró (entrance included). Here you will see the most stunning views of the ocean and a spectacular sunset.

## **Day 9: Transfer to Bodega Garzón, for a Tour with Lunch and Tasting**

Tour "Estate" at Garzon Winery (Duration 45' approx.) Enjoy a beautiful view of the vineyards, learn about their terroir and the strains they develop, visit the winery and learn more about the production processes while tasting three of their Estate wines during the tour. Fixed times: 10:00 am, 11:30 am, 1:30 pm and 3:30 pm. Lunch at the "Estate" at Bodega Garzón Restaurant (Duration 1.5 - 2hours approximately) The Bodega Garzon Restaurant has a main lounge, large terraces, a fire area for different meats and a private space with its own terrace. It has capacity for up to 120 people, where each space has a privileged view that allows you to enjoy the countryside, the hills and the vineyard. Enjoy a four course lunch Estate at Garzon Winery, including mineral water.

## **Day 10: Free Day Jose Ignacio**

Free day to explore Jose Ignacio on your own

## **Day 11: Departure**

Drive back to Montevideo's Airport.



## Route



### Technical Characteristics:

**Route Profile:** Easy. As this is mainly a walking tour, travelers should be in good condition and be able to walk for up to 6 hours per day.

**Travel Season:** Daily departures, from January 6 - September 15, 2022

Blackout Dates: December 20 – January 5; February 26 – March 1 (Carnival); April 14 – April 16; April 21 – April 23 and August 12 – August 15

## **Price per Person**

Double Occupancy January 6 – February 26	\$ 4940.00 USD
Double Occupancy March 2 – April 30	\$ 4865.00 USD
Double Occupancy May 1 – September 15	\$ 4750.00 USD
Single Occupancy January 6 – February 26	\$ 6950.00 USD
Single Occupancy March 2 – April 30	\$ 6820.00 USD
Single Occupancy May 1 – September 15	\$ 6440.00 USD

\*Group rates available for this tour. As this is a guided tour, the pricing improves with more people participating. Please ask us for details.

## **Accommodation:**

Variety of 4\* boutique hotels, deluxe rooms all with private facilities

## **Included:**

- 10 nights at selected accommodations throughout Uruguay
- Daily breakfast
- Services according itinerary details
- Entrance to Museums, Natural Reserves or National Parks, and places mentioned in the description of the tour

## **Not Included:**

- Meals that are not mentioned in the tour description
- Beverages or tips during the meals
- Tips for guides or drivers
- Ferry or air tickets, to or from Montevideo

